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EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV020613625US
PATENT
FEB 11 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Christian Korfhage et al.

Application No. : 10/057,748

Filed : January 25, 2002

For : AMMONIUM SULFATE FOR NEUTRALIZATION OF
INHIBITORY EFFECTS

Examiner : David A. Lambertson

Art Unit : 1636

Docket No. : 770025.401

Date : February 11, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents:

In response to the Office Action dated August 13, 2002, please extend the period of time for response three months, to expire on February 13, 2003. Enclosed are a Petition for an Extension of Time and the requisite fee. Please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 7, page 1 to read as follows:

It is well known that many molecules such as proteins, spermine, spermidine, cationic detergents, ethidium bromide, SYBRGREEN® (cyanine) dye, actinomycin, etc. are able to bind to and to inhibit the function and analysis of RNA. The binding mode of most inhibitory molecules to RNA is ionic, stabilized by hydrophilic or lipophilic interaction. In many cases, the interaction between inhibitory molecules and RNA is very strong so that very harsh conditions (e.g., denaturating agents, chaotropic agents, detergents, phenol etc.) are needed to diminish the

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